

# CDF NEWS RELEASE

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection



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## **State Fire Marshal Reminder: Change the Clock – Change the Battery**

**Sacramento** – This weekend we observe Daylight Savings Time by turning our clocks back one hour. As we “add” an hour to our day, the State Fire Marshal reminds everyone to also replace the battery in their smoke alarms. It’s an easy way to remember this simple task which can save an entire family.

Every year more than 3,000 people die in residential fires in the U.S. and more than 800 of them are children under the age of 15. About 94% of American households have smoke alarms, however of those households reporting fires, 3 out of 10 of their smoke alarms are not working, mostly because the battery is dead or missing. “It only takes a few seconds to replace the smoke alarm battery and yet that simple act could save your life and your family,” said California State Fire Marshal, John Tennant.

State Fire Marshal Tennant and all of the firefighters of the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection remind you: **Before you go to bed Saturday night, set your clock back one hour and replace the battery in every smoke alarm in your house. You’ll sleep better for it.**

For more fire safety tips, visit the CDF website at [www.fire.ca.gov](http://www.fire.ca.gov).

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